

## Finding Joy in the Wilderness

In the original Greek of the first chapter of the gospel of John, he describes John the Baptist as a witness to the light: *martyria*. This word for “witness” gives rise to the English word “martyr.” When the religious leaders come to interrogate John in Bethany, John doesn’t yet have his head on a plate. But he bears witness to Jesus from his very first appearance in John’s Gospel.

In this Bethany scene, John’s story comes ahead of his cousin Jesus’ ministry. Jesus has not yet gained notoriety. Jesus is born, but he is still waiting in the wings.

When the religious leaders ask John who he is, he tells the truth. He’s not Elijah. He’s not the messiah. John is not a reprise of that which has already happened: Elijah’s time prophesying on earth. John is also not that which is yet to come: Jesus’ ministry and redemption of humankind. John is in the space between *the already and the not yet*. The prologue of the Gospel of John even seems to pause each time it refers to John the Baptist. Even textually, his ministry is liminal.

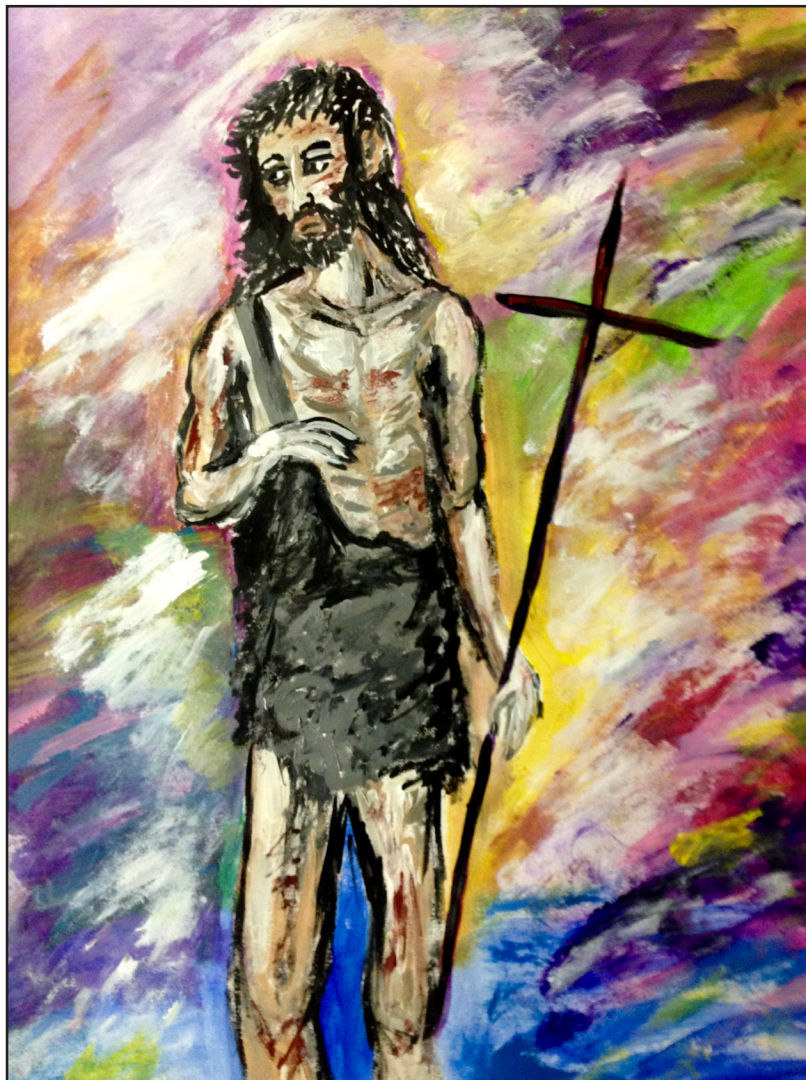
In 2023, all of us pastors are doing ministry in a liminal wilderness. Those still living have collectively survived a global pandemic that has permanently altered our churches and communities. Natural and geopolitical disasters strike

the places we love with increasing frequency, causing us to wonder if we’re next. In 2023, we have set up camp between *already and not yet*: between pandemic and endemic, between weather crises and hope for our climate’s future.

In Jerusalem, where I currently live and work, locals and pilgrims alike frequently express to me their feelings that the world is getting overwhelmingly worse. Global catastrophes of disease and disaster aside, our ordinary lives can be wildernesses, too. Some years, our precarious lives are lived between weddings and funerals, scary doctor’s appointments and trips to visit loved ones. Most of us, it seems, are in some kind of wilderness.

In the wilderness places, we know God is present, but it seems to us that God has not yet shown up.

The Third Sunday of Advent is often referred to as *Gaudete*, the Sunday of joy. Many light a rose candle to honor joy in the midst of Advent, a season in which our lectionary readings often trend apocalyptic. While many are familiar with the four weeks of Advent as hope, peace, joy, and love, the tradition of the four last things might feel more apropos in a wilderness context: death, judgment, heaven, and hell. Our liminal lives weave between these two ways



Our liminal lives weave between these two ways

*Continued on page 2...*

## Wilderness

*Continued from page 1*

of conceiving of Advent. We walk a path between hope, peace, joy, and love lighting our way toward Christmas on the one hand, and harder holiday season awakening considerations of death, judgment, heaven, and hell on the other.

This week in the four last things is for heaven, and heaven hasn't happened yet for John the Baptist, either. John's story is one in which joy has not yet entered the story and heaven is not yet on earth. In the wilderness, trying to find joy can be like trying to make a fire with wet matches. The responsibility to light the world is too great for us to bear. We cannot illuminate the horizons of our wilderness alone; we cannot drag heaven down to meet us here.

Though John's story feels thematically jarring for the third week of Advent, his answer to religious leaders' interrogation does give us a clue for how to find joy in the wilderness.

John reminds us who we are not. We are not the light. We are not Elijah. We are not the messiah. We are not always particularly joyful. We are not in heaven.

When we free ourselves from the responsibility to manufacture joy, bring heaven here, and light the world alone, we are free to act. We testify to the light before it comes, and we stick around to witness Jesus. I talked with a pilgrim this week about doing ministry in the wilderness, before joy has shown itself. She talked about allowing the space of the unknown, not knowing everything that's about to happen: not knowing, but acting anyway.

John prepares the way for Jesus in the wilderness. He prepares the way by action. He baptizes in joyful expectation that Jesus is on the way. We too can testify that we are not the light and prepare the way for the light of Christ

*Written by Katie Kirk, Porter Fellow at St. George's College in Jerusalem. Original Article taken from Christian Century Magazine. Find more at [christiancentury.org](http://christiancentury.org)*

# Pregnancy Aid

For 30 Advent seasons, we erected a Pregnancy Aid Giving Tree in our church building as a demonstrative way of supporting our pro-life convictions. This Giving Tree outreach program benefits the local Pregnancy Aid Society at their location at 15847 East 8 Mile Rd. in Eastpointe, where women with unplanned pregnancies can find positive alternatives to abortion. Services provided include pregnancy tests; emotional help, ultrasounds and material support for both infants and their moms. It is this last area that relies on us to stock their supply room.

Our sculpted metal "Tree" was lost in the flood, so it makes sense to extend the collection time for Pregnancy Aid and accept shipped packages as well as in-person drop-offs — take a pass on the gift tags — and accept mailed packages, too.

Usually we would ask that gifts arrive here during the actual Christmas masses. However, because of current circumstances, gifts to Pregnancy Aid will be welcomed now through the end of December. Although cumbersome when it comes to storage, it is better for the good of the whole to get this done earlier rather than later. If you want to make an online purchase from a vendor, please have it sent directly to the parish office with a marking "**Pregnancy Aid**" somewhere on the shipping label.

The Pregnancy Aid Society has a wish list which includes: baby clothing (0-12 mos.), sleepers, blankets, bibs, undershirts (one-piece snap-style), bath accessories, baby toiletries, diapers (size 1 and 2), strollers, breast-feeding accessories and informative books and toys. "Pack 'n Plays," along with Pack 'n Play-sized crib sheets, are also welcomed, as are all gently used baby furniture and car carriers.

In short — things that are practical, educational and essential. Gently used baby furniture, strollers and car seats are also a welcome gift — call for special drop-off instructions. All these items brought in are part of an inventory from which Pregnancy Aid draws all year long.

With safe-delivery laws, adoption, pregnancy resource centers, and assistance from agencies that provide necessities for mom and baby, every pregnant woman should know there is a community of compassion waiting to help her. While pregnancy can be overwhelming, women never need to face it alone. That's a commitment the Catholic Church, local Catholic agencies, and pregnancy resource centers offer to mothers.

Your gifts would best be here for transport by December 28<sup>th</sup>.



# All Things Considered

If you are reading this before Sunday, or at the Saturday Mass or 8:30 a.m. Sunday mass, then consider stopping at our interactive **"Morning in Bethlehem"** taking place in our church parking lot in between our Masses.

This is an "extracurricular" activity for our Religious Education program, but I venture a guess that in the long run, it will be a memory long cherished by our youngsters.

It's **Pat Mocer**, working with our current and past Religious Education Directors, **Kelly Woolums** and **Bernadette Gutowski**, that is the organizational energy that holds this wild event together remembering the old vaudeville saying: *"never work with children or animals."* The Advance and Set Up Team involved Margie Prokop Joe Maffesoli, Steve Skorupski, Mary Skipp, Mark Grech and Julianne Phillips.

"Bethlehem" means "house of bread" and for the day, our bakery was staffed by Anna Balow, Anne White-O'Hara and Tom O'Hara. Mike Mocer and a lot of eighth-grade helpers manned the oven.

First century children's games were offered to 21<sup>st</sup> century kids thanks to Priscilla and Brock Barczyk.

Kristen Kingzett and Colleen Drummond helped our visitors craft an ornament to take home for their tree.

Beth Skorupski and Ron Spalding prepared wood and supplies for the hands-on carpenter shop.

And the centerpiece of it all – the living nativity went to Lindsay and Paul Decker and the animals from Chabrelain Pony Rides.

My thanks to all these, my staff and many others who may have gone unrecognized. You helped children and adults alike enter into Christmas in a most wonderful way.

If you missed the event, our Mass videographer, **Gabe Engler**, with his friends taped it for online viewing starting next Sunday morning.

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With the Fourth Week of Advent reduced to just 24 hours this year, there are a number of Christmas announcements and advisories that need to be made in this week's bulletin.

Note the abbreviated schedule next Sunday morning. There will be the regular 4:00 Saturday Mass on December 23<sup>rd</sup>, but there will **only be one Sunday morning Mass on December 24<sup>th</sup>** – a compromise time at **10:00 a.m.** Attendance at either the Saturday 4:00 or Sunday 10:00 masses will satisfy your obligation to attend Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent. The official position of the Church is that closing out the Advent season is important enough to require attendance at Mass twice next weekend.

## ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday,  
December 20, 2023  
AT 7 P.M.

Next Sunday, turns from being the Fourth Sunday of Advent to Christmas Eve beginning at Sundown – or what liturgically is considered so, at 4:00 p.m. And as is our custom, we focus that first Mass of Christmas on the children of our parish.

The format for that service has not changed much over three decades, and neither have the loosely applied "entrance requirements."

**1. Bring a child.** Preferably small. This Mass allows families to begin the hectic holiday by helping kids see the reason for the season – the birth of Jesus. This 4:00 time slot is also immensely popular with seniors, but may-

be this is the one time for them to shift their Mass attendance to another of the three liturgies and give their seat to a younger family.

**2. Bring a bell.** We observe the custom of ringing in the announcement of Christ's birth as we sing the "Gloria" at the opening of the Mass. A jingle bell, sleigh bell, dinner bell, cow bell, silver bell – all are acceptable. The jury is still out on iPhone bell apps. The great cacophony of sound adds to the joy first expressed by angel choirs at that first Christmas.

**3. Bring a gift for the Pregnancy Aid Society.** Christ has a lot of brothers and sisters who, like him, arrived into this world in poverty. They need our love and attention. Pick up a gift for a newborn, and/or a newborn's mom this week and bring it with you to Mass. Is your gift idea too big to carry – have it drop shipped here or sent to the parish marked "Pregnancy Aid." If you are attending one of the three other Christmas Masses – Midnight, or on Monday morning at 8:30 or 11:15, bring your gift and place it under our parish Christmas tree. Your gifts will be transported on the 28<sup>th</sup>, to the headquarters of the Pregnancy Aid Society where they will be distributed as needed over the next year.

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Stuck for a last minute gift that is at the same time something of quality and unique to St. Ambrose? Check out our new supply of custom rosaries online or in the display cabinets in church.

There is a limited amount of Ambrosian honey available this year. The stock of the current vintage is now only 30 jars. Because of its scarcity and given the season-long volunteer care hours it took to tend our apiary, we're valuing a gift-boxed jar at \$100.

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Remember: an end of the year donation made to St. Ambrose is exempt from the usual 7% Archdiocesan tax. It's also your opportunity to assess where you want to be with your charitable donations for the IRS. Just mark your gift "Christmas" and following the will of your donor it will be applied as such.



Name

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Home Phone

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Work Phone

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Email Address

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- ☐ I would simply like to learn more about the Catholic Faith.
- ☐ I desire to prepare for my Baptism into Christianity.
- ☐ I've been Baptized as a Christian and now desire to join in Catholic Communion.
- ☐ I'm non-Catholic, but married to a Catholic, and now wish to join the Catholic Church.
- ☐ I'm Catholic and I would like to complete my initiation into the Catholic Church by celebrating Confirmation and/or Communion.
- ☐ I'm Baptized Catholic and would like to learn more about my faith and how to practice it.
- ☐ I want to propose someone for Catholic Church membership and offer to serve as their sponsor.
- ☐ I would be willing to help with an R.C.I.A. program.
- ☐ I have other needs, requests, and questions. Please contact me.

Return this to the Parish Rectory or place it in the Collection basket.

## The Buzz

This third Sunday of Advent has traditionally been called *Gaudete* Sunday because its Latin name, which calls us to rejoice, was the first word sung at the beginning of the weekend's Mass. It's joy comes from the fact that Advent is more than half over and the celebration of Christmas is coming very soon. In fact, this year it is coming the fastest possible – with only ONE week plus a few hours left.

So, this is the last BUZZ before Christmas, and it made me stop and try to take a bigger-picture look at the meaning of this whole time of year. In the scriptures from our liturgies we could just be content with the very familiar words and scenarios about Isaiah, John the Baptist, King David, and Mary. But I think adults who are ready for something even richer can find more and more precious layers open to them below the surface.

One adit (for non-crossword puzzlers, have some fun and look up this word) is the question posed by the priests and Levites to John the Baptist: "Who are you?" And the way to "enter" this prayerful meditation is simply to let this question be asked of you yourself – Who am I?

To help . . . does anything in the Isaiah reading pertain to you? If not, keep reading it till it does! Take in all the advice from I Thessalonians. Identify with the characters in the Gospel until you see it all pointing toward you – in communion with Christ! Then next Sunday (it'll go quick!) from the passage in II Samuel, there's the opportunity to join with King David in whether you should be a builder or the building. In the Gospel, really grow close to Mary who experiences God's answer.

So, rejoice in "the reason for the season" as never before. May your Christmas welcome Christ to be reborn in you more than ever before.



A brand new reflection on our identity in the light of Advent could form the basis of a great examination of conscience for each of us in preparation for Christmas. Sin is whatever we allow to stand in the way (or whatever we settle for short) of our full calling by God.

Advent is a time meant to help us renew our focus on continuing to move in the direction of everything our deepest nature tells us we are meant to be. The Sacrament of Reconciliation can be a great help in doing this. Count on getting ready to immerse yourself in the deepest meanings of the Incarnation by way of this Baptismal-renewal Sacrament. Come celebrate a communal penance service this Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. The next day (Thu. 12/21), winter begins at 10:27 pm EST. The solstice has the shortest amount of daylight of the year. Yet with Advent and Christmas faith, you just may find these shortest days of the year filled with the most light. Rejoice if you do!



During this season of gifts and presents, if you or someone you know is looking for the gift of faith, or has just begun to receive it and wants to grow and develop it (even return to it) . . . the (O/R).C.I.A. process at St. Ambrose may just be what you're shopping for. There are no strings nor fees attached to this easygoing and personally tailored opportunity. It is never too early or late in life to check this out if the Lord has caught your attention and interest in some way. Call me anytime at 313-332-5631 for more no-cost, no-obligation information.



My Christmas prayer during these days is that the joy and peace of the Lord's coming and presence will be with you and yours. And my wish is that you may get everything you want for Christmas, and that the Spirit will make you want everything you truly need!

*Wesołych Świąt, Bożego Narodzenia,*  
from both Sue &  
Chuck Dropiewski



## Christmas with our Neighbors

The St. Ambrose St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVdP) recently sponsored a **Thanksgiving Dinner** outreach as well as a **Christmas**

**With Our Neighbors** program. Over 120 parishioners donated food and gifts to neighbors in need between these two programs.

Our SVdP chapter doesn't anticipate needing any last minute help, but there are always a few emergencies that come up. You can always go on a call list, in case they need help. More importantly, consider becoming an active member of our St. Vincent dePaul chapter. The winter is long and the needs of the poor last all year long – not just during the holiday.

To date, in 2023, our SVdP made 585 home visits. They provided 50 beds, spent \$14,000 on food vouchers, \$8,197 on rental assistance, \$5,070 for appliances, and \$1,719 paid out to DTE to keep the power on in people's homes. Other assistance included blow up beds and more food supplies. These miscellaneous items amounted to \$3,538.

Direct financial help/money donations to the SVdP always finds a good use. In making a donation to them, please specify "St. Ambrose" SVdP not SvdP Detroit or National. If you don't do so, your gift gets directed to the larger cause – equally necessary, but not in our neighborhood.

As always our chapter of SVdP thanks you for being enablers of their good work – for that is exactly what you are.

## Honey from Our Hives

The "2023 vintage" of St. Ambrose honey is now processed and packaged. This year, we moved our hives away from the construction zone, and left more honey for the bees themselves to winter-over. As a result, there is a very limited number of jars that we can offer for sale. Accordingly we've priced it at \$100 per jar. This is a unique gift, one that literally is a "taste of St. Ambrose," since honey, like wine, takes on the character of the place where it is produced. Our honey jar comes with Ambrose featured on it, the patron saint of bees and beekeepers. These one-pound jars come gift-boxed and can be purchased through our office. Call (313) 822-2814.



## When Your Donation Is Worth 7% More

As we come upon the last days of the calendar year, it means we are also coming up to the end of a fiscal tax period. **If you intend to make an end-of-the-year gift to the parish, you'll need to date it before January 1<sup>st</sup> and get it into our office in an envelope marked "Christmas Collection."** Gifts made in this manner are free from the usual Archdiocesan taxation of 7%.

A significant portion of our parish operating revenue comes from end-of-the-year contributions which can be in the form of cash, securities, stock, real estate and other negotiables. Consult your tax preparer who can guide you as to the best way of making a donation to St. Ambrose. Or, our own parish accountant can also be of assistance if you call the rectory.

## Ghirelli Rosaries

Six different custom designed rosaries were made by hand in Italy expressly for St. Ambrose Parish. The bead collection ranges from hard woods to various semi-precious stones.

The crucifix is modeled from the Ark Plaza sculpture and the center piece depicts the First and Second Coming of Christ from our sanctuary. The "Pater" bead is taken from details in our stained glass windows.

A Ghirelli Rosary is a perfect Christmas Gift, for someone joining the Church, or for a First Communion keepsake

To order, please visit our website, use the QR code below, or visit the parish office.



## The Beehive

is the parish weekly bulletin of the St. Ambrose Catholic Community Detroit/Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan

**Priest in Solidum:** Rev. Timothy R. Pelc

**Pastoral Minister:** Charles Dropiewski

**Religious Education:** Kelly Anne Woolums

**Minister of Music:** Josh Burkroff

**Office Manager:** Peggy O'Connor

**Secretary:** Mary Urbanski

### Sacramental Celebrations

**Masses:** On the Lord's Day –

Saturday Vigil - 4:00 p.m.

Sunday - 8:30 & 11:15 a.m.

**Baptism:** Arrangements for both adults and infants to be made by contacting the rectory.

**Penance:** As announced and by appointment.

**Marriage:** Couples should contact the rectory office a minimum of six months in advance of the proposed date to make arrangements.

**Funeral:** Normally celebrated within one week after the deceased's passing.

### Directory

**Parish Office:** 15020 Hampton

Grosse Pointe Park, Michigan 48230

**Tel:** (313) 822-2814 **Fax:** (313) 822-9838

**Email address:** stambrose@comcast.net

**Religious Education:** (313) 332-5633

**Pastoral Ministry:** (313) 332-5631

**Ark Scheduling:** (313) 822-2814

**Parish Website:** stambrosechurch.net



## Liturgy Schedule

**Monday, December 18**

*Weekday 3<sup>rd</sup> week of Advent*

**Tuesday, December 19**

*Weekday 3<sup>rd</sup> week of Advent*

8:30 a.m. – Mass – Patricia Higgins

**Wednesday, December 20**

*Weekday 3<sup>rd</sup> week of Advent*

**Thursday, December 21**

*St. Peter Canisius, priest*

11:00 - Funeral - Gertrude Meingast P

7:00 p.m. – Intention of Kiernan Tague

**Friday, December 22**

*Weekday 3<sup>rd</sup> week of Advent*

12:00 p.m. – Tim & Pam Scanlon

**Saturday, December 23**

*St. John of Kanty, priest*

4:00 p.m. – Mass – For All People

**Sunday, December 24**

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

10:00 a.m. – Mass – For All People



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## Scriptures for the Third Week of Advent

**December 18**

Jer 23: 5-8

Ps 72: 1-2, 12-13, 18-19

Mt 1: 18-25

**December 19**

Jgs 13: 2-7, 24-25a

Ps 71: 3-6, 16-17

Lk 1: 5-25

**December 20**

Is 7: 10-14

Ps 24: 1-6

Lk 1: 26-38

**December 21**

Sg 2: 8-14 or Zep 3: 14-18a

Ps 33: 2-3, 11-12, 20-21

Lk 1: 39-45

**December 22**

1 Sm 1: 24-28

(Ps) 1 Sm 2: 1, 4-7, 8abcd

Lk 1: 46-56

**December 23**

Mal 3: 1-4, 23-24

Ps 25: 4bc, 5bc, 8-10, 14

Lk 1: 57-66

**December 24**

2 Sm 7: 1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

Ps 89: 89: 2-5, 27, 28

Rom 16: 25-27

Lk 1: 25-28

## Third Sunday of Advent December 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>

Reference # in our Breaking Bread Hymnal or on your iphone using the QR code.

**Entrance:** Every Valley #70

**Responsorial:** My soul rejoices in my God

**Preparatory:** In the Day of the Lord #578

**Communion:** O Come, O Come Emmanuel #39

**Recessional:** O, Come Divine Messiah #44



To participate electronically, go to: [facebook.com/stambroseparish](https://facebook.com/stambroseparish) or better yet, to  
You Tube at [www.youtube.com/channel/UCbymbGIGxUF6UqPct5xfg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbymbGIGxUF6UqPct5xfg)

## Your Envelope Speaks ... the Inside Story

To operate, each week our parish requires a *minimum* of..... \$10,100.00

**On Sunday, December 10, 2023**

in envelopes we received ..... \$2,816.00

in the loose collection..... \$3,569.00

in electronic donations..... \$4,505.91

for a total of ..... \$10,889.91

Over budget for the week..... \$789.91

Number of envelopes mailed ..... 621

Number of envelopes used ..... 90



Join us on YouTube

[www.youtube.com/channel/UCbymbGIGxUF6UqPct5xfg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbymbGIGxUF6UqPct5xfg)

## Our Sick

Please pray for those who are seriously ill or who are hospitalized: Pat Blake, Donald Miriani, Bonnie McKenna, Matthew Elias, Mary Martin, Emilie Kasper, Anna Noto Billings, Eileen O'Brien, Liz Linne, Donna Barnes, Charmaine Kaptur, Frank Gregory, Alex Billiu, Jackie Walkowski, Maria Simcina, Sharif Hannan, Shirley Whelan, Ricardo Hernandez Montoya, Albina Checki, Judy Sivanov, Matthew Brown, Lily Faith, Patty Freund, Janis Ramsey, Colette Gilewicz, Al LaHood, Valerie Hudson, Jeanene Maples, Angela Hansen, John Freund, Kevin O'Connor, Tiffany Saine, Nick Piccione, Ann Billiu and those suffering and hospitalized worldwide with Covid.

## Our Dead

A funeral Mass for **Eileen Janadia** nee Farrell (76) was offered here at St. Ambrose for the repose of her soul on December 9<sup>th</sup>. The daughter of Peggy and Peter Farrell, Eileen was raised on Manistique Street along with her siblings, Mary, Patrick, and John. She attended St. Ambrose Elementary and High through her Sophomore year when at the recommendation of the Dominican Sisters on our faculty, she transferred to St. Mary Trade School in Greektown to pursue a career as an executive secretary. This led to a position with the United Auto Workers headquarters on Jefferson, where she functioned as a legal assistant.

Eileen married her next door neighbor Robert and at the same time became a mom with Rondi, Robert's daughter from a previous marriage. Added later to their family was Robert "Bobby." Eileen lavished much of her attention on her granddaughter, Julia.

In addition to a life spent in international travel and an appreciation of the arts, Eileen filled her life with dancing and her "best friends," her four dogs.

More importantly, Eileen was true to her Catholic Social Justice roots with her support of a number of humanitarian causes. The cause of racial and social equality was a particular focus for her.

She died at home in Warren among her family, in the gentle care of hospice.

# The Christmas Season at St. Ambrose

## COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday, December 20, 2023 AT 7 P.M.

## THE FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT

Saturday, December 23, 2023

Mass AT 4 P.M.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023

MASS AT 10:00 A.M.

## VIGIL OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Sunday, December 24, 2023

Children's Mass AT 4 P.M.

## FEAST OF THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Monday, December 25, 2023

MIDNIGHT MASS AT 12 A.M.

MASSSES ON CHRISTMAS DAY – MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

AT 8:30 A.M. AND AT 11:15 A.M.

## FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Saturday, December 30, 2023,

MASS AT 4:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2023 AT

MASS AT 8:30 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.

## NEW YEAR'S DAY

SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024 AT 10:00 A.M.

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Saturday, January 6, 2024

MASS AT 1:30 P.M. – CONFIRMATIONS

MASS AT 4 P.M.

Sunday, January 7, 2024

MASS AT 8:30 A.M. AND 11:15 A.M.

## Oplatek

Before sitting down to Christmas Eve dinner, many families with roots in Poland and other Eastern European countries will take part in the oplatek tradition. The sharing of this unleavened bread with another person is a time to tell each other, 'I love you, I care about you.' These wafers are sold through our parish, at our office or after mass in church. White wafers are for the human members of the family; pets get the tinted ones. If you cannot find Oplatek in stores, we have some in our office.



## Pray Every Day

Could you be searching for a fresh new way to pray every day of the year? *Daily Prayer 2024* is your guide to prayer that includes scripture, psalmody, a brief reflection, general intercessions, and a closing prayer. It is ideal for personal and family reflection upon the word of God. This also makes an excellent gift for a senior, newlyweds or for a student away at college.

These prayerbooks are \$10 each — which is a modest investment in someone's spiritual formation. To pick up a copy of this year's *Daily Prayer 2024*, call the rectory office at 822-2814, or purchase online at [stambrosechurch.net](http://stambrosechurch.net).



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